

Atlanta
 Augusta
 Boston
 Brooklyn
 Cambridge, Mass.
 Charlotte, N. C.
 Chattanooga
 Chester, Pa.
 Chicago
 Cleveland
 Columbus, Ohio
 Detroit
 East St. Louis, Ill.
 Englewood, N. J.
 Jersey City

BULLETIN

OF THE

National Urban League

For Social Service Among Negroes

EUGENE KINCKLE JONES

Executive Secretary

127 E. 23RD STREET

New York, N. Y.

Louisville
 Memphis
 Milwaukee
 Nashville
 Newark, N. J.
 New York
 Philadelphia (2)
 Pittsburgh
 Savannah
 Springfield, Mass.
 St. Louis
 Trenton, N. J.
 Westfield, N. J.
 White Plains
 Youngstown, O.

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No. 4

NATIONAL PROGRESS

Enlargement of Staff:

The national office has received new impetus from "Reconstruction Days" demands and has been forced to carry out plans—laid aside during the war—for enlarging the national staff.

Two of the five new departments contemplated have been created following the recent action of the Executive Board empowering the Executive Secretary to appoint a Southern Field Organizer and an Educational Secretary.

The entire body of the League will be glad to welcome the two strong men secured for these positions: Jesse O. Thomas for Southern Field Organizer and Alexander L. Jackson for Educational Secretary. Both men are eminently fitted for the work they are to undertake.

Mr. Thomas was for six years Field Secretary for Tuskegee under Dr. Booker T. Washington, working in intimate relation with him—an education in itself. He was afterwards principal of Voorhees Institute which position he left to become Director of Negro Economics for the State of New York under the Department of Labor. In resigning this position to take work with the League, Mr. Thomas says:

"I have accepted work with the National Urban League for two principal reasons; 1st, I am convinced that all of the Negroes of the South are not coming North and that the Negro problem is still to be solved largely below the 'Mason and Dixon' line. 2nd; I know of no organization having for its aim the social and economic betterment of the colored people, that is more practical and sane in its program than the Urban League."

His work will be that very important one of organizing and directing southern cities, a broad and necessary field in these days of an awakened consciousness, of the Negroes' new opportunities and responsibilities—a work in which his training and experience will prove valuable. He is taking courses in labor problems at the New York School of Social Work as special preparation for his work.

The educational program as submitted by a special committee briefly calls for the securing, training and placing of social workers which includes the necessity for an acquaintance as far as possible with colored students in every college and university in the country; the supervising of those who show desire and adaptability for social work in courses of study and field training and directing each to the work for which he seems best fitted—a very full program and one calling for an especially well qualified executive.

The League is fortunate in securing such a man for this work in the person of Mr. Jackson who brings to it all the energy and enthusiasm he used in making the Chicago "Y" the most substantial in the country. He graduated honor man from Harvard in '14 being elected class orator and was student secretary of "Y" before going to Chicago. He will work in co-operation with the National Social Worker's Exchange.

New Cities:

Three new cities have organized Urban Leagues since the last Bulletin, each having been successful in accomplishing that most important thing—securing a strong executive board of representative men and women of both races. Cambridge was the first to organize in February, 1919; Milwaukee followed in May; and Boston

in June, 1919. Mrs. L. S. Nowell is in charge of the Cambridge organization. The executives for Milwaukee and Boston have not yet been announced.

"Fellows":

The rapid growth of the work has made it necessary to place in training several "Fellows":

William L. Evans, the first "Fellow" of this year was trained in Chicago and immediately absorbed by that office as Industrial Organizer for the Northwest. Mr. Evans left the field of architecture to enter a "broader field" as he phrased it.

E. Champ Warrick, graduate of the University of Wisconsin is also in training in the Chicago office.

Arthur D. Browne, formerly a successful young physician of Atlanta, Ga., a returned lieutenant from overseas came to the League for social service training in New York City and has taken charge of the Youngstown, Ohio, work.

Howard C. Gregg, 1919 graduate of Yale is in training in the New York office and at the New York School of Social Work.

Abram Lynn Simpson of Louisville, a graduate of Wilberforce University and a returned captain from overseas, is also in training in New York City.

Publicity:

That publicity pays is evidenced by our many letters beginning, "I read of your work in the" The N. A. A. C. P. devoted more than a page of its space in the May issue of the "CRISIS" to a resume of the 1918 Annual Report of the League, thus bringing our work before its many readers of both races.

The "SURVEY" columns are always open to the League. At their request, the Executive Secretary reviewed two Negro publications:

"Twenty-five years in the Black Belt" and "The Question before Congress" in the April 26th and May 24th issues of the magazine.

News articles covering our work appear weekly in most of the Negro papers and often in the large white dailies.

In April the League entered into a year's contract with the PUBLIC MAGAZINE to use a page every other week for advertising purposes. To meet the cost of advertising as well as to secure a wider circulation for the magazine, subscriptions were sought thru letters to prominent people of both races thruout the country at large, and thru the local League branches. Gratifying responses to our requests for subscriptions have come and are still coming—each local executive trying to secure as many subscribers as possible. It is hoped that these efforts will not be relaxed.

The "PUBLIC" advertisements thus far have dealt with the problems of the Child, of Industry and of Housing, at least two issues being given to each subject. Work in cities is to be featured either specially or to illustrate—as has been done already—some subject being discussed. The articles are receiving wide and favorable attention.

Labor:

The action of the American Federation of Labor in annual session at Atlantic City, June 1919, in voting to receive and organize Negroes into unions is very gratifying to all those who worked for its accomplishment. The National League office as well as

the locals is now particularly interested and alert in seeing that it becomes a reality in the local communities.

Meetings:

Reconstruction has brought to New York City many notable conferences this year—most of which have been attended by the Executive Secretary or the assistant. Among the most important were the Conferences on Housing, on Charities and Corrections and the Regional Conference on Minimum Standards for Children.

Atlantic City:

The most interesting conference however, from many standpoints was the National Conference on Social Work held at Atlantic City, June 1st to 8th, 1919. Five thousand delegates were present about forty of whom were colored. Among these the National Urban League was the most largely represented. The following League executives were present: Eugene Kinckle Jones, Lillian A. Turner, Alexander L. Jackson of the National office; T. Arnold Hill, Chicago; John C. Dancy, Jr., Detroit; William Ashby, Newark; Robert J. Elzy, Brooklyn; James H. Hubert, New York; Arthur D. Browne, Youngstown; Howard C. Gregg; and John T. Emlen of Philadelphia. Other members present were Mrs. Albert S. Reed, of the National Executive Board; Miss Leonora Morse Rosing and the Rev. Holmes Whitmore of the Milwaukee Executive Board; Miss Amelia Sears of the Chicago Executive Board, Walter S. May, President of the Pittsburgh Urban League and Francis D. Tyson of the Pittsburgh Urban League; A. W. McDougal and Mrs. R. C. Jenkinson of the Newark Urban League; A. L. Manly, Industrial Secretary of the Philadelphia Armstrong Association.

As a result of the work of John R. Shillady and E. K. Jones mentioned

elsewhere, the problems of the Negro received special attention at all sessions where this was possible.

Seventeen members were present at the Urban League luncheon conference held on Wednesday. Mrs. Reed of the National Board entertained the colored workers informally on Thursday. At this gathering a committee was appointed—the National Urban League acting as a clearing house—to carry out a plan to confer with the heads of the departments of the conference to see that our problems receive adequate attention at the next conference.

E. K. Jones spoke on the "Negro and Labor" on Monday in the session on Industry.

William Ashby presented the work of the League on "New Jersey Day." The symposium on Negro problems at which Mrs. Helen Irvin and Dr. George Edmund Haynes of the Department of Labor, Mr. James H. Robinson of Cincinnati, and Mr. R. R. Wright of Philadelphia spoke, was an interesting session and well attended.

North Carolina:

Eugene K. Jones delivered two lectures on "Problems of Negroes in Cities" and "Social Programs for Improving City Conditions" at the summer school held at Greensboro, N. C., on the 7th and 8th of July.

Co-operation:

The National Urban League and the N. A. A. C. P. have a committee of five from each organization to co-operate on all fringe matters affecting the interests of both organizations. The committee is composed of the following members: Dr. R. R. Moton, the Reverend A. Clayton Powell, Mrs. Albert J. Erdmann, L. Hollingsworth Wood and Eugene Kinckle Jones, from the National Urban League; Mrs.

Florence Kelly, Miss Mary White Ovington, Charles H. Studin, Dr. Hutchinson C. Bishop and John R. Shillady from the N. A. A. C. P.

A Joint Committee composed of the five national organizations—the National Advancement Association, the Young Men's Christian Association, the Young Women's Christian Association, the National Federation of Colored Women's Clubs and the National Urban League has found many occasions for conference. It was their work in writing the heads of each department of the Conference of Social Work that made possible the constant injecting of the Negro problem into the various sessions. This had the salutary effect of making each one present realize the existence of a problem in his own community and resolve to assist in its satisfactory solution.

The Committee on the relations of the Negro to organized labor which was so helpful in bringing about the favorable action of the American Federation of Labor at Atlantic City is still at work and is expecting a conference with the Executive Council of the A. F. of L. to discuss the carrying out of the recommendations made at the meeting. This Committee is composed of Dr. James Dillard, Dr. R. R. Moton, Emmett J. Scott, Fred R. Moore, L. Hollingsworth Wood, Dr. Thomas Jesse Jones, John R. Shillady, Dr. Archibald Grimke, Dr. George C. Hall and E. K. Jones.

WORK IN CITIES

In most of the cities the general work of the League is so well organized under competent committees that the executives have been able to focus their attention on the paramount needs of housing and industry. No opportunity is lost, however, to improve the general conditions of the Negro citizen.

New Features:

John C. Dancy, Jr., was instrumental in the appointment of the first Negro in Detroit to serve as advisor to the mayor.

Mr. Dancy has secured and is conducting a settlement house as a feature of the League's work. Some of its activities are a babies' clinic, boys' and girls' clubs, overnight lodging for girls, reading rooms and a music school.

The League also has a visiting housekeeper, a member of the Detroit Visiting Housekeeping Association.

John T. Clark of Pittsburgh is publishing a Bulletin. The spicy July number announcing the new League headquarters has just reached us.

He reports that the State Department of Labor is financing his industrial bureau—still operated by the League—and that 473 men were placed during June.

The Industrial Committee of the Booker T. Washington Community Center of Louisville has secured work for colored persons with three firms not heretofore employing colored.

The Nonpareil Toy Factory and the New England Button Works in New-ark are employing colored women as a result of the work of the Urban League.

The East St. Louis League is very active in stabilizing Negro labor through noon day talks, community meetings and by the introduction of welfare workers.

Mr. Buckner, Executive Secretary, just announces another welfare worker placed in the American Manufacturing Company of East St. Louis.

The New York Urban League interested the Rotary Club in the underprivileged boy in Harlem and was instrumental in securing \$30,000 for a boys' clubhouse—\$5,000 being given by the colored people themselves.

The Memphis Urban League in cooperation with the Central Civic League has just closed a successful campaign to raise \$50,000 for welfare work among Negroes.

A colored centennial celebration costing \$3,000 marked the beginning of the Memphis League's campaign for wider industrial opportunity for Negroes. Already several multigraph operators, foremen and clerks have been placed.

A part of the purchase of the Springfield Institutional Activities, affiliated with the League (mentioned under "Housing") includes a 16-room house to be remodelled for the use of the Boys' Club which has outgrown its present quarters.

Armstrong Association of Philadelphia is making great progress in community developments. It plans development of family life thru home and school visitors—of whom it employs four—who teach the relation of the home to the school. It plans the development of leaders thru its high school girls' clubs and collegiate scholarships for boys and girls.

2,518 placements—largely industrial—were made by its industrial bureau last year.

Housing:

The housing problem is tense everywhere. The League branches are meeting the problem for Negroes in each of the three ways quoted in our statement in the July "PUBLIC."

"Following the survey in Chicago a joint committee on housing colored people has been formed, including organizations—public and private, white

and colored—which are handling the problems of finance, of location and of types of houses to be built.

From Springfield, Mass., Dr. W. N. DeBerry of St. John's Institutional Activities, affiliated with the National Urban League, writes: 'Our corporation has purchased twelve additional tenements with the purpose of repairing and remodelling them for the use of colored families, enabling us now to accommodate about 25 families.'

The St. Louis Independent News' description of the 'follow up' work inaugurated in East St. Louis after its survey, is typical of our method of improving sanitation in congested districts: 'The Neighborhood Worker of the Urban League goes into the homes, learns of conditions and organizes a club of homemakers. The agent for the house is induced—sometimes forced—to make necessary repairs. Then the tenant is encouraged to make a home of the shack, formerly so dilapidated that one would scarcely be expected to be careful of conditions.'

NEWS NOTES

George W. Buckner will take charge of the St. Louis field September 1st.

The condensed bulletins published by the Chicago League and followed by Brooklyn are handy and useful compilations of work.

William N. Ashby is back on the job as Executive Secretary of the Newark Urban League after several months' absence while acting as Director of Negro Economics for the State of New Jersey.

Interesting reading is furnished in the many applications for social service which the League has received from a large number of the country's best school teachers—each applicant seeking a larger field of usefulness.

Two cities in California are asking for the organization of a League.

John C. Dancy, Jr., has sent us a pamphlet called 'Sixteen Color Points' prepared by the Dress Well Club of Detroit—a part of his plan to keep up to standard the behavior, the health and the personal appearance of the "Newcomers" especially as they go to and from work.

Failure of Congress to appropriate sufficient funds for the Department of Labor has caused much routine employment work to be thrown back on the various Urban Leagues.

The stationery of the locals is becoming uniform in appearance—most of them having secured the seal. This uniformity gives not only distinction but strength—both to the National and the locals. As the League is growing so rapidly it will be well not to order stationery in too large quantities so that no local will be long without the new cities on its letter heads. The increase promises to make it soon necessary to name by states rather than cities—using one city in each state as headquarters.

Most of the organizations are getting splendid publicity thru the best newspapers and magazines in the country. This is even more important as a means of educating the public than it is of advertising the work of the League.

The Philadelphia Association for the Protection of Colored Women had Mrs. Alice Dunbar Nelson as speaker at its Conference Luncheon closing its membership campaign.

Eleven colored men and women are studying this summer at the New York School of Social Work—several of them doing field work with the New York Urban League. Three of these are Urban League "Fellows."

THE OCTOBER CONFERENCE

Preliminary Plans

1. Time—Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Oct. 15-19, '19.

2. Subject—"INDUSTRIAL PROBLEMS OF THE NEGRO."

3. Place—DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

4. Under the auspices of the NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE.

5. Persons to be invited: Colored and white social workers from all over the country interested in the welfare of colored people, as well as men and women interested in labor questions.

Meetings

Wednesday, 9 a. m.—Registration of Delegates. 10.30 a. m.—Exercises under auspices of the local consisting of welcome addresses and response.

2 p. m.—National Chairman presiding; Topic: "MIGRATION."

8 p. m.—Topic 1 "IS THE NEGRO GRASPING HIS INDUSTRIAL OPPORTUNITY?"

Topic 2—"NEGRO LABOR TURN-OVER-WHY?"

Thursday, 10 a. m. Topic—"RECREATION."

2 p. m.—"HOUSING."

8 p. m.—"HEALTH."

Friday, 10 a. m.—TRAINING FOR MORE SKILLED WORK—EDUCATIONAL PROVISION.

2 p. m.—COMMUNITY PROGRAM FOR INDUSTRIAL EFFICIENCY.

What the Negro preachers can do in a program for Community Development.

8 p.m.—"ORGANIZATION OF NEGRO WORKERS."

RESOLUTIONS

Saturday, 10 a.m.—Meeting of the Executive Board members of Locals and National organization and the employed executives to discuss matters of concern to the National organization and the Locals.

Sunday—Pulpits of the City to be filled by those persons selected who will remain over for this purpose.

Every Urban League Executive is expected to be present.

Race Riots:

The deplorable race riots just ended in Washington, D. C., and in Chicago as we go to press emphasize the great need for co-operation between the races in urban communities so constantly stressed by the League in its program.

The National Executive Secretary was called to Chicago to confer on the labor situation following the riots. He has just returned and reports that thru conferences with the heads of Packing Plants Negroes who were thrown out of work because of the riots are returning to their work; that the whole situation, however, remains very tense and the League—working with other organizations, is striving for a permanent satisfactory settlement of the matter of race friction.

The Chicago Urban League acted as relief headquarters for distribution for the Red Cross during the riots and as a pay station for Morris and Co. Packers for its Negro employees.

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